GIVING THEM OUR BEST: 4-H PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

Outcome: Young people experience positive outcomes because 4-H youth development professionals reflect quality, distinction and leadership in the field of youth development which leads to positive outcomes for young people

COMPONENTS (of Professional Development System) INTERELATED STRATEGIES (How we do it)	COMPETENCIES	TRAINING & PROF. DEV. RESOURCES (Learning resources that support standards and competencies, promote program quality and address the highest learning needs)	LEARNING DELIVERY SYSTEMS (Venues for obtaining training, professional development, mentoring and networking)	PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT AND RECOGNITION (Strategies that recognize, value and reward 4-H educators for demonstrated proficiency, leadership and professional growth.)	RESEARCH & EVALUATION SYSTEMS (Evidence that links the impact of learning to 4-H educators performance, program quality and youth outcomes.)
USING & DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE about what exists and what needs to be discovered, documented or developed to move the system along.					
ENGAGING THE FIELD including individuals, groups, networks and organizations to move the system-building effort forward.					

Based on the results and recommendations from the Wingspread Conference "Attracting, Developing and Retaining Youth Workers for the Next Generation", November 2004. Adapted for 4-H Professional Development, 2005-2006.

COMPONENTS (of Professional Development System) INTERELATED STRATEGIES (How we do it)	STANDARDS & COMPETENCIES (Knowledge, skills and competencies needed in 4- H youth work at various levels of the system)	TRAINING & PROF. DEV. RESOURCES (Learning resources that support standards and competencies, promote program quality and address the highest learning needs)	LEARNING DELIVERY SYSTEMS (Multiple venues for obtaining training, professional development and networking)	PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT AND RECOGNITION (Strategies that recognize, value and reward 4-H educators for demonstrated proficiency, leadership and	RESEARCH & EVALUATION SYSTEMS (Evidence that links the impact of learning to 4-H educators performance, program quality and youth outcomes.)
FORMALLY				professional growth.)	
ADOPTING recommendations and professional policies and to be carried out across 4-H.					
IMPLEMENTING standards, policies, recommendations and programs and products that will lead to a unified professional development system.					
COMMUNICATING what, why and how the 4-H professional development system will benefit 4-H.					
RESOURCING how the system is sustained with time, energy and money.					

⁴⁻H is the premier youth development program of USDA. 4-H (head-heart-hands-health) seeks to promote positive youth development, facilitate learning and engage youth in the work of the Land Grant Universities and in their communities to enhance the quality of life. The educational foundation for 4-H lies in three mission areas tied to the knowledge base of the Land Grant Universities and USDA: Science, Engineering and Technology; Healthy Lifestyles; Citizenship.